Citi is proud to partner with the National Coalition for Homeless Veterans in its efforts to end homelessness among veterans and thanks John Driscoll for his years of service, passion and commitment to the cause.

Citi Salutes℠ supports veteran servicing organizations and nonprofit partners, such as LISC-NEF Bring Them HOMES, dedicated to serving the men and women who have sacrificed for our country.

Learn more at citisalutes.com
Welcome to New Orleans for the 2014 NCHV Veterans Access to Housing Summit, presented in partnership with Citi Community Development and The Home Depot Foundation. We are gathered here to give local perspective on changing Federal programs, to help you develop concrete action items for approaching local stakeholders, and to help you learn about new funding mechanisms to increase your community’s housing stock.

We have brought top experts and officials to be a part of our conversation during the Summit, and we are counting on you to bring your insight and perspective to work with the speakers and presenters here to bring new ideas back to your community together, let’s increase veterans’ access to housing they can afford and meet the goal of ending veteran homelessness by 2015.

**Summit Schedule Overview**

**Thursday, Nov. 13, 2014**

8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.  Continental Breakfast and Registration Table Open

9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.  Opening Session

10:45 a.m. - Noon  Breakout Sessions I

Noon - 1:30 p.m.  Lunch Provided

1:30 p.m. - 2:45 p.m.  Breakout Sessions II

3:00 p.m. - 4:15 p.m.  Breakout Sessions III

4:15 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.  Day One Wrap-Up and Next Steps

6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.  Cocktail Reception (light hors d’oeuvres and drinks provided)

**Friday, Nov. 14, 2014**

8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.  Continental Breakfast and Registration Table Open

9:00 a.m. - 9:45 a.m.  Opening Session

9:45 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.  Breakout Sessions IV

10:45 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.  Breakout Sessions V

11:30 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.  Day Two Wrap-Up and Next Steps

11:45 a.m.  Summit concludes
Thursday, Nov. 13

8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.
Breakfast and Sign-in - Empire Foyer

9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.
Opening Session - Empire CD
Imperial AB
Homeownership “Speed Training”
Strand 11
GPD Myth Busting and Scope Changes Part One

10:45 a.m. - Noon
Imperial CD
PSH Development: Basics and Best Practices

Noon - 1:30 p.m.
Lunch - Empire CD
Imperial CD
Innovative Financing Tools and Stability Strategies

1:30 p.m. - 2:45 p.m.
Imperial AB
Homeownership “Speed Training” (repeat)
Strand 11
GPD Myth-Busting and Scope Changes Part Two

3:00 p.m. - 4:15 p.m.
Imperial AB
Philanthropy in Affordable Housing
Strand 11
SSVF-GPD Integration

4:15 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Day One Wrap Up - Empire CD

5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
Cocktail Reception - Empire Foyer West

Plenary sessions

Section 1 - Corporate Philanthropy

Section 2 - Transitions in Transitional Housing: GPD, Next Steps, and SSVF

Section 3 - Building Blocks: Creating New Affordable Housing Options for Veterans

Section 4 - Overlapping National Initiatives
Friday, Nov. 13

8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. | Breakfast and Sign-in - Empire Foyer
9:00 a.m. - 9:45 a.m. | General Session - Empire CD
9:45 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. | Imperial AB
\hspace{0.5cm} Filling the Gaps: Working through the Mayor’s Challenge
\hspace{0.5cm} Intersections of Major Initiatives: What Comes Next?
10:45 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. | Strand 11
\hspace{0.5cm} VA Program Eligibility Working Group
\hspace{0.5cm} VA Program Eligibility Working Group (repeat)
11:30 a.m. - 11:45 a.m. | Summit Wrap Up and Next Steps - Empire CD

Plenary sessions
Section 1 - Corporate Philanthropy
Section 2 - Transitions in Transitional Housing: GPD, Next Steps, and SSVF
Section 3 - Building Blocks: Creating New Affordable Housing Options for Veterans
Section 4 - Overlapping National Initiatives
Ensure Every Veteran Has a Safe Place to Call Home

The Home Depot Foundation is proud to support the National Coalition for Homeless Veterans
Homeownership “Speed Training” | Thursday, 10:45 a.m.; 1:30 p.m. | Imperial AB

For low-barrier homeless veterans connected to gainful employment and benefits, homeownership may be a feasible housing alternative. In high-occupancy rental markets, homeownership can be more cost effective than renting. Establishing needed safeguards before, during, and after the purchasing process can ensure that these veterans remain stable and secure after move-in. Learn more about homeownership resources for veterans and nonprofit organizations.

Experts in this session will manage tables on financial literacy and counseling, down payment assistance programs, and philanthropy in affordable housing. Partners from Citi Salutes and Citi Community Development will provide guidance on accessing their network of resources, including new toolkits for financial literacy and stability. Participants should come prepared to ask specific questions to assess their ability to support homeownership and will be expected to outline specific action plans for pursuing homeownership.

Philanthropy in Affordable Housing | Thursday, 3:00 p.m. | Imperial AB

In markets where affordable housing options are limited and low-income veterans are at high risk of losing their housing stability, partners in philanthropy have stepped in to fill the gaps when Federal funding cannot meet all needs. The Home Depot Foundation and Team Depots across the country have worked with hundreds of service providers to increase the stock of affordable housing and foster stability for low-income veterans needing home repairs and retrofitting.

In this session, learn more about the process for applying for financial support from The Home Depot Foundation and the major impacts of The Home Depot Foundation and Team Depots across the country. Grantees will share their stories and provide insight on best practices for managing philanthropy, Federal, state, and private funding streams to create new housing options. Participants should come prepared to share their experiences with Team Depot projects and to assess their organization’s ability to create new housing with The Home Depot Foundation.
Section 1 - Transitions in Transitional Housing:
GPD, Next Steps, and SSVF

This section includes three sessions: two sessions on GPD Myth-Busting and Scope Changes, and Challenges Trouble Shooting; and SSVF-GPD Integration.

To remain competitive and impactful, Federal grant programs serving homeless and at risk veterans must continue to evolve to meet emerging needs. In the last four years, programs across the housing spectrum have adopted Housing First principles, invested in Continuum of Care programs and resources, and integrated growing prevention, rapid re-housing, and permanent supportive housing resources. The Grant and Per Diem (GPD) program continues to provide transitional housing, an essential step in the housing spectrum. To remain an integral part of the continuum of services, GPD must reflect local emerging needs.

Organizations with GPD should prepare by reviewing their organization’s strategic plans, assessing their current GPD Scope of Work, and outlining specific challenges currently faced within their program. Organizations working with GPD will be encouraged and expected to engage in out of the box thinking to respond to questions posed in these workshops.

GPD Myth-Busting and Scope Changes Part One | Thursday, 10:45 a.m. | Strand 11

In this session participants will learn strategies and steps for making immediate to long term changes to their GPD programs to better reflect the services that local homeless veterans need. Experts from VA and NCHV will outline several strategies to align GPD programs to local needs, including an outline of the legislative proposal process for pursuing change in program regulations. Experts will provide some “myth-busting” information on Transition in Place and the GPD program.

Experts from VA and NCHV will facilitate small-group discussions on out-of-the-box strategies for GPD in response to key questions provided to participants. This session will include review of GPD suggestions made in the 2014 NCHV Annual Conference (provided to all participants). Participants will be expected to outline their remaining program hurdles and needed steps for addressing their changes (i.e. requiring a change of scope or legislative action). All participants will be asked to contribute to a “Next Steps for Transitional Housing” white paper developed by NCHV.

GPD Myth-Busting and Scope Changes Part Two | Thursday, 1:30 p.m. | Strand 11

In the second session, experts will provide a repeat of “GPD Myth-Busting and Scope Changes Part One”, as well as an introduction to the VA program eligibility working group to be held on Friday.

SSVF-GPD Integration | Thursday, 3:00 p.m. | Strand 11

In this session experts from VA and service providers with GPD and SSVF will discuss best practices for SSVF-GPD integration. Participants will learn about allowable and unallowable activities, including common barriers that providers have overcome to facilitate seamless integration of these two programs. Participants will be expected to identify their own barriers to and successes with integration, including strategies for using GPD as bridge housing. All participants will be asked to contribute to a “Best Practices of SSVF-GPD Integration” white paper developed by NCHV.
Section 2 - Building Blocks:
Creating New Affordable Housing Options for Veterans

This section includes five sessions broken out at follows: PSH Development: Basics and Best Practices; Innovative Financing Tools and Stability Strategies; Proposition 41: A Case Study from California; Integrated Housing Opportunities; and Olmstead Planning for Housing.

In many communities across the country, the limited stock of affordable housing opportunities, and even fewer supportive housing options, for homeless and at-risk veterans means a real barrier to ending homelessness. Expiration of LIHTC and rising property values in the wake of economic recovery mean affordable rental housing is in short supply. Pressures on Federal programs to integrate without duplicating means strained resources to end homelessness overall, including for veterans.

In this block of sessions, experts in affordable and permanent supportive housing development will provide guidance and tools for increasing local affordable housing stock. Participants should come prepared with their local PIT counts and shelter bed inventories if possible.

Developing Permanent Supportive Housing: Tools and Best Practices | Thursday, 10:45 a.m. | Imperial CD

In this session experts will provide an overview of quality Supportive Housing. Do you want to create supportive housing that serves Veterans? This session will give you an overview and access to the tools and resources you need to get a project started, whether you are creating scattered site, single site or integrated supportive housing.

Innovative Financing Tools and Stability Strategies | Thursday, 1:30 p.m. | Imperial CD

Experts in this session will discuss how to integrate LIHTC and HUD-VASH as well as other financing and operating sources that can be used to create supportive housing. Service providers will discuss lease-up processes and strategies for maintaining high retention rates. This session will discuss scattered site, single site and integrated strategies.

Proposition 41: A Case Study from California | Thursday, 3:00 p.m. | Imperial CD

This session will provide an overview of the process of Proposition 41 in California, a ballot measure that authorized $600 million in general obligation bonds for affordable housing development for veterans. Panelists will outline major steps taken by local agencies to maximize the affordable housing developed from this Proposition. Panelists will explain how this Proposition was developed and passed, providing participants with guidance on how a similar process can be achieved in their states.

Integrated Housing Opportunities | Friday, 9:45 a.m. | Imperial CD

Expert trainers in this session will discuss strategies for developing integrated housing using state, federal, and private funding sources. Participants will obtain strategies for connecting veteran-specific and mainstream financing tools to develop new units, including implementation of the Section 811 Demo Program to create additional integrated supportive housing opportunities.

Olmstead Planning for Housing | Friday, 10:45 a.m. | Imperial CD

Participants in this session will learn about the U.S. Supreme Court’s 1999 Olmstead decision and its impact on current housing planning processes for states. Experts will discuss the various types of activities that are involved in Olmstead planning, and the types of information contained in Olmstead Plans. Participants should come prepared to discuss their state plans, as applicable.
Section 3 - Overlapping National Initiatives

This section includes two sessions: Filling the Gaps: Working through the Mayor’s Challenge and Intersections of Major Initiatives: What Comes Next?

Participants in these sessions will learn more about the major national initiatives, including how these initiatives are having impact in local communities. Experts will share detailed information about what is working so far, and offer guidance on remaining challenges.

Every community in the country can end veteran homelessness with the right resources, but is what you have enough to make it happen? Sometimes, the major gap is a lack of coordination and leadership. What if your community is not part of any national initiative to end homelessness, yet you still have veterans in your programs? You already do a lot with little… come prepared to clearly outline your challenges and think creatively about steps to fill remaining gaps, often without Federal funding support.

Filling the Gaps: Working through the Mayor’s Challenge | Friday, 9:45 a.m. | Imperial AB

In this session experts will expand upon information provided in the opening session on Friday. They will provide detailed guidance on what Mayors or representatives from cities represented by participants are currently doing to fill in local gaps in services. Participants should come prepared to share insights on their local efforts, including steps on how they engaged and continuously inform their Mayor’s office to facilitate a strong working relationship. Participants from cities or towns where no officials have signed on, or where officials are less than active, will be expected to develop concrete action steps for engaging needed players after returning home.

Intersections of Major Initiatives: What Comes Next? | Friday, 10:45 a.m. | Imperial AB

This session also builds off of Friday morning’s opening session, asking that providers bring targeted questions for experts on better engaging with local efforts to end homelessness. Participants are asked to bring their PIT counts and gaps analyses, as available.
Guest Speakers (listed alphabetically)

KC Choi, SVP & Program Director, Citi Salutes, Citi Community Development

Kyung ‘KC’ Choi, senior vice president and program director for Citi Salutes, leads Citi’s efforts to ensure its programs, products and partnerships support the veteran and military community. Citi Salutes is a company-wide effort to coordinate activities with internal and external stakeholders to empower veterans, active-duty military, and their families with the tools they need to realize their professional and personal ambitions. Currently a Commander in the U.S. Navy Reserves, KC serves as a Public Affairs Officer for the Navy Region Mid-Atlantic Reserve Component Command.

Hala Farid, SVP, Deputy Director, Office of Homeownership Preservation, Citi Community Development

Hala Farid’s career has focused on creating and preserving homeownership opportunities for families with limited means, in the nonprofit and for-profit sectors. She worked for NHS of NYC for over eight years providing New York families with homeownership counseling and education. She was certified by NeighborWorks America in homeownership education and counseling.

Farid joined Citi Community Development in 2002. She has had several assignments with a focus on housing, ranging from affordable mortgage program development to homeownership preservation. She is currently the Deputy Director of the Citi Office of Homeownership Preservation (OHP). OHP’s mission is to work with third parties—housing counselors and others, helping customers find alternatives to foreclosure. OHP also focuses on developing and maintaining relationships with nonprofit partners, and ensures the responsible disposition of REOs. She works closely with the businesses within Citi, and manages national nonprofit partner relationships such as NeighborWorks America & National Community Stabilization Trust.

Throughout her career, Farid has received several awards for her dedication to her partners including the Riac NHS of NYC Award, the NeighborWorks Recognition of Support Award, the Citimortgage Recognition of Support Award, and the Citi Community Relations Gem Award. She has been recognized as a CitiStar.

Elisha Harig-Blaine, Principal Housing Associate, National League of Cities

Elisha Harig-Blaine is the Principal Housing Associate for the National League of Cities (NLC), connecting local leaders to best practices and efforts working to end veteran homelessness. He has worked at the local, state, and federal levels on homelessness and housing for nearly 15 years.

A veteran of the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve, Elisha began his work with the homeless doing outreach in hospitals, prisons and on the streets. He previously helped run a soup kitchen and led a community coalition to prevent homelessness. Prior to joining NLC, Elisha worked at the National Low Income Housing Coalition. As Director of Outreach and State Coalitions, he worked with more than 1,000 members and 63 state-level coalitions on federal advocacy efforts to preserve and expand affordable housing opportunities for extremely low-income households.

He is a volunteer board member of Rebuilding Together in Anne Arundel County, Maryland. He has spoken across the country on the issues of homelessness and housing with organizations including the Urban Land Institute, National Housing Conference, American Legion and the National Alliance to End Homelessness.

Elisha earned a Bachelor Degree in Political Science from St. Mary’s College of Maryland and has a Master Degree in Public Policy from George Mason University.
John Kuhn, National Director, Homeless Prevention, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

John Kuhn has led the development and launch of the Supported Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) program, VA's new homelessness prevention and rapid re-housing initiative. In the coming year, SSVF will provide $500 million in grants to community organizations assisting homeless and at-risk veteran families. Prior to working with SSVF, Kuhn authored VA's CHALENG Report, a community assessment on the needs of homeless veterans, and he introduced a new survey which now includes feedback from thousands of homeless and formerly homeless veterans. Earlier in his career, Kuhn led VA homeless programs in New Jersey, for which he received national recognition regarding his development of innovative employment, housing, and treatment services.

Mitch Landrieu, Mayor, City of New Orleans

Mitch Landrieu was sworn in as the 61st Mayor of New Orleans on May 3, 2010 with a clear mandate to usher in a new era of peace and prosperity in New Orleans. As Mayor, he has delivered major victories, and everywhere you look, progress is being made. According to the U.S. Census, New Orleans is the fastest growing major city in the U.S. The city ranked #1 metropolitan area for overall economic recovery by the Brookings Institute and most improved city for business by Wall Street Journal’s MarketWatch. New Orleans received the World Tourism Award for outstanding accomplishments in the travel and hospitality industry and Forbes named New Orleans the #1 city for “brain gain.” Now, the city is moving forward towards its 300th anniversary in 2018. The people of New Orleans know what it’s like to win and want more of it.

Throughout his years of public service, Mitch has governed by the philosophy that we are “one team, one fight, one voice, and one city.” Prior to becoming Mayor, Mitch served as Louisiana’s Lieutenant Governor for six years, leading the effort after Hurricane Katrina to rebuild the tourism industry and the tens of thousands of jobs it creates. During his tenure, he launched the Cultural Economy Initiative to quantify and grow jobs in Louisiana’s culture, music, food, film and art industries.

Prior to becoming Louisiana’s Lieutenant Governor, Mitch represented the Broadmoor neighborhood in the Louisiana House of Representatives for 16 years, where he established a record as a reformer. He also had a successful law practice for 15 years and became an expert mediator, focusing on alternative dispute resolution.

Mitch was educated at Jesuit High School of New Orleans, Catholic University in Washington D.C., and earned a law degree from Loyola University. He is the son of Moon and Verna Landrieu and grew up the fifth of nine children in the Broadmoor neighborhood, where he developed a love for the city. Today, Mitch and his wife Cheryl, who is a lawyer serving as Clerk of the Louisiana 5th Circuit Court of Appeals, are raising five children of their own.

Anthony Love, Senior Advisor and Director of Community Engagement, VHA Homeless Programs, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

Anthony Love serves as Senior Advisor for Veterans Healthcare Administration for Homeless Programs working out of the Department of Veterans Affairs National Center on Homelessness Among Veterans. In this role, he provides advice to the National Director of VHA Homeless Programs on operational and strategic opportunities, as well as identifies and recommends best practices related to homeless solutions, community, state and local government engagement, as well as facilitates alignment of VHA Operations and Research functions.

Love previously served as Deputy Director for at the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH), where he was responsible for coordinating the state and local work of the Council and served as the lead on veterans issues for the Council.
Heather Pritchard, Manager, National Partnerships and Atlanta Hometown Giving, The Home Depot Foundation

Heather Pritchard is the Manager of National Partnerships and Atlanta Hometown Giving for The Home Depot Foundation. Pritchard strategically manages and builds relationships with national nonprofit organizations as well as funding and relationship building with nonprofits in The Home Depot’s hometown of Atlanta, GA. Prior to joining the Foundation, Pritchard was the Director of Program Investment with the United Way of Greenville County, where she provided strategic direction and guidance to the $6.2 million program investment process as well as capacity building for numerous nonprofits. She has served on several boards including: City of Greenville Housing Authority, Humane Society, the Nonprofit Alliance, and the national AmeriCorps Alums board.

Jeffery Quarles, Director, Grant and Per Diem National Program Office, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

Jeffery Quarles has served as Director at the Grant and Per Diem (GPD) National Program Office in Tampa, Florida, since February 2012. As Director, he is responsible for overall management and administration of the GPD program nationally, and ensures GPD-funded, community-based programs provide quality services compliant with existing laws and regulations. Prior to this, Quarles was Clinical Manager for the GPD Program National Program Office from 2006 until accepting his new role in 2012. During his 21-year VA career, Quarles has had increasing responsibilities within the Department. He has directed vocational rehabilitation programs and residential services at the Cleveland VA Medical Center and served as the VISN 10 Network Homeless Coordinator from 2000 to 2006.

Jessica Venegas, Director, Strategic Partnerships, Community Solutions

Jessica Venegas is Director of Strategic Partnerships for Community Solutions, where she supports the 100,000 Homes Campaign.

Prior to joining Community Solutions, Jessica staffed a long-term partnership between Common Ground and UNITY of Greater New Orleans to help create 3,000 new units of affordable and supportive housing in the wake of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. She has also held executive positions at the Louisiana Association of Nonprofit Organizations and the Community Preservation and Development Corporation in Washington DC.

Jessica holds a BA in Urban Community Development from Azusa Pacific University and a graduate certificate from the University of Pennsylvania’s Center for Urban Redevelopment Excellence (CUREx).

In 2008, she was named an inaugural fellow of the Louisiana Effective Leaders Program, and in 2009, she was recognized as a Louisiana Heroine by the Louisiana Association of Nonprofit Organizations.

James Yates, Senior Associate, Technical Assistance Collaborative

James M. Yates is a Senior Associate at TAC. He has over 20 years of experience in the nonprofit and public sectors, advocating and supporting the development of housing and programs for low-income, homeless and disabled individuals and families. Yates possesses expertise in housing development, real estate finance, community planning, federal programs and regulations, program development and grant writing. Yates also has expertise in affordable housing real estate finance. This work includes the effective utilization and layering of a wide array of federal housing programs to include the Low Income Housing Tax Credit Program, the HOME Partnership Program, the Community Development Block Grant Program, HUD’s Homeless Assistance Programs, Section 811 and 202 Programs, Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program, and the Section 8 Project-Based Voucher Program. Yates also has extensive experience in veterans housing issues and is currently a Lieutenant Colonel in the Army National Guard. This work includes a special focus on the VA’s Supportive Services for Veteran Families and Grant and Per Diem programs. He has performed three overseas deployments in key leadership positions supporting both Operation Joint Endeavor and Operation Enduring Freedom.
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The NCHV Veterans Access to Housing Summit utilizes Hyatt’s 200,000 square foot event venue, including the Empire Ballroom and outdoor terraces with city views. The hotel’s experienced Concierge team will help you with arrangements to area attractions, plan an evening on the town or arrange for transportation services around the Big Easy. You can relax and enjoy everything the Crescent City has to offer when you stay at Hyatt Regency New Orleans.
The need for comprehensive federal and local supportive, veteran-specific programs for homeless veterans is well-documented.

These men and women answered the call to serve their country in a way increasingly few Americans ever will.

They deserve nothing less than the full measure of our support in their greatest hour of need.